

## Senate Resolution 133

By: Senators Beach of the 21st, Brass of the 28th, Jones of the 25th and Martin of the 9th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Atlanta-region Transit Link "ATL" Authority to prioritize and encourage the use  
2 of technological innovation and the development of intelligent transportation systems; and  
3 for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, intelligent transportation system technology improves transportation safety and  
5 mobility and enhances American productivity by integrating advanced communication  
6 technologies into vehicles and infrastructure; and

7 WHEREAS, innovative technology exists today that enables vehicles, roads and other  
8 infrastructure, and our smart phones to all communicate and share vital transportation  
9 information through advanced wireless communication technology; and

10 WHEREAS, connected vehicles could dramatically reduce the number of fatalities and  
11 serious injuries caused by accidents on our roads and highways; and

12 WHEREAS, in addition to the tremendous safety potential of connected vehicles, they also  
13 promise to increase transportation options and reduce travel times by allowing traffic  
14 managers to control the flow of traffic more easily with the advanced communications data  
15 available and prevent or lessen developing congestion; and

16 WHEREAS, a report from the United States Department of Transportation indicates that  
17 connected vehicle mobility applications may be able to cut travel-time delays caused by  
18 congestion by more than one-third; and

19 WHEREAS, Transit Signal Priority is a well-proven technology utilized to detect the  
20 presence of a transit vehicle and, depending on the system logic and the traffic situation then  
21 existing, giving the transit vehicle special treatment; and

22 WHEREAS, utilizing its role in regional transit planning, the ATL Authority can explore  
23 ways to expand the use of connected vehicles and Transit Signal Priority for ATL buses,  
24 which would drastically decrease travel times for riders, increase overall transit ridership, and  
25 ultimately reduce vehicle congestion on metro Atlanta roads; and

26 WHEREAS, the ATL Authority should consider implementing "queue jumper" lanes which  
27 enable buses to bypass waiting queues of traffic and move to the front by getting an early  
28 green signal as well as increase the use of far-side bus stops as opposed to bus stops on the  
29 approach to an intersection; and

30 WHEREAS, the future of surface transportation includes increased use of electric, connected,  
31 and autonomous transportation. The "ATL" should consider as a priority technologies which  
32 advance electric, connected, and autonomous technologies to make the "ATL" a technology  
33 leader in using technology to deliver advanced, rapid, reliable transit solutions; and

34 WHEREAS, it is recognized that increasing ridership of multi-passenger vehicles by making  
35 transit travel times shorter and more reliable will help the adoption of transit as a viable  
36 transportation option compared to single passenger vehicles. Increased adoption of  
37 multi-passenger vehicles can result in a reduction of single passenger vehicles, which will  
38 result in the reduction in overall congestion levels; and

39 WHEREAS, the ATL Authority is encouraged to embrace the many emerging technological  
40 innovations and cutting-edge transportation planning concepts in its long-term planning for  
41 the future of the Atlanta region.

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
43 urge the Atlanta-region Transit Link "ATL" Authority to prioritize and encourage the use of  
44 technological innovation and the development of intelligent transportation systems.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
46 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the board members  
47 of the Atlanta-region Transit Link "ATL" Authority.